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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 657
By Fowler

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Siskin Steel and Supply
Company on the occasion of its 100th
anniversary.

WHEREAS, the foundation of the strength and economic security of this nation is based upon the drive, determination and hard work of family entrepreneurs who started small and persevered to create vibrant businesses which grew, along with our country, to mature into far-flung enterprises; and

WHEREAS, the best of those enterprises carried their employees along with them through policies of fairness and concern for their well-being, and thereby instituted a sense of loyalty, belonging and team spirit that became an integral part of the success of those businesses; and

WHEREAS, Robert Siskin, a junk dealer, set out on that exemplary road of American enterprise a century ago in Chattanooga; Mose and Garrison Siskin, sons of Robert Siskin, followed by Robert Siskin, son of Mose Siskin, and Merv Pregulman, son-in-law of Garrison Siskin, led this family-owned enterprise to success and prosperity; and

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WHEREAS, in order to grow and remain competitive, in 1996 an emotional decision was made to sell the company to Reliance Steel and Aluminum, a publicly held company based in Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the values of its founders, the paramount consideration in selecting a buyer was to find one who shared Siskin's concern for its employees. The choice was an excellent one; the business has continued to increase and the firm now does about \$180 million annually as a subsidiary of Reliance Steel and Aluminum; and

WHEREAS, the company has 602 employees with plants in five cities, including Birmingham, Nashville, Atlanta, and Greenville, South Carolina, with the Chattanooga operation occupying a 30-acre tract with 377 employees; and

WHEREAS, the employees are the spiritual heart of Siskin Steel; Virginia Igou started out 48 years ago as a file clerk making \$1.10 an hour. Izzie Frumin, Vice President for Marketing, has been employed for 42 years, as has Merv Pregulman who is now Vice Chairman of the Board; and

WHEREAS; others with long tenure are Ann Benton, with 42 years; Dave Garland, 38 years, Alwayna Everett, 35 years; Bill Bryson, 34 years; Roger Strutton, 34 years; Mary K. Sledge, 33 years; Rusty Ward, 33 years; Eddie Stinnett, 33 years; Billy Winters, 32 years; Albert Atterson, 31 years; Dave Berry, 30 years; Bob Carter, 28 years; Frank Sisk, Jr., 28 years; Tommy Sharp, 28 years; Bill Pittman, 27 years; Billy Youngblood, 27 years; Harvey Merritt, 27 years; Bill Riddle, 26 years; Don Michael, 26 years; Jimmy Bolden, 26 years; Raymond Phillips, 26 years; Carl Johnson, 25 years; Pat Owens, 25 years; Billie Ladd, 25 years; Lester Shubert, 25 years, and Clifford White, 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the Siskin-Pregulman connection continues with Merv's son, John Pregulman, the current president of Siskin Steel and Supply Company; and

WHEREAS, whatever the future holds, the history of the company demonstrates the linkage between success and a loyal, hardworking cadre of employees. Company officer

accessibility, 29 quarters of profit-sharing, and mutual respect between officer and employees for the work each one does have made a definite contribution to the century of growth and prosperity at Siskin Steel; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that such a record of achievement and contribution by a truly enlightened business should be honored and praised; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this General Assembly congratulate the officers and employees of Siskin Steel and Supply Company on the occasion of the celebration of 100 years of progressive and innovative business practices while maintaining a workplace characterized by concern for the well-being of employees and mutual respect for the work of others and being a good corporate citizen of Chattanooga and the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.